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G. Collingwood, translator of the *Life and Death of Cormac the Skald*, offers in numbers two and three a rendering of a "Legend of Shetland from the *Fljotsdaela Saga*." In addition there are a number of book reviews and much interesting matter under the "Notes" department. A writer here contributes a note on gender in the Orkney dialect; he cites the fact that, as late as fifty years ago, few Orcadians in ordinary conversation used the neuter gender, everything being masculine or feminine. This would seem to be a special development in the language of the Orkneys, for such was not the practice in Iceland, nor is it to-day in dialect speech in Western Norway, whence the colonists of Orkney came. It may, however, be said that the prevalence of the feminine pronoun is a characteristic of English folk-speech. Further investigation would probably show that it is the feminine pronoun that predominates also in Orkney English. Relative to the use of the masculine pronoun in referring to the weather I may, however, say that the use of the masculine pronoun here is to-day characteristic of most of the dialects of Norway, as (translating the original phrases) "he's cold to-day" for "it is cold to-day," or "he's snowing" for "it is snowing." The rule is therefore that natural phenomena are thought of as masculine and when referred to by substitutory pronouns, the masculine is always used. Part 2 of the Old-Lore series, which will contain the Diplomatarium or "Orkney and Shetland Records," begins in number I with extracts, translation, and notes from Adam of Bremen, referring to the earliest Bishops of Orkney, and extracts from Annals and Ecclesiastical Documents relative to the Isles, while in numbers 2-3 this part is devoted to "Shetland Sasines" for the years 1623 to 1625. In succeeding issues are to be printed Orkney Sasines and a number of Scotch, Latin, and Norse documents, collected last year in Scotland by Professor A. Taranger of Christiania on behalf of the Norwegian Government for a forthcoming volume of *Diplomatarium Norwegicum*. Copies of these documents have been given the Viking Club in advance of publication; the text is to be edited by Professor Taranger and the translation of the Latin and Norse papers will be made by Dr. J. M. Stefansson. There will also from time to time

be printed extracts and translations of Scottish, English, Welsh, Irish, and Manx records, as well as translations from Norwegian, Danish, and Icelandic archives. A special committee of the Viking Club with Mr. J. W. Cursiter, F. S. A. Scot., as chairman, is at present engaged in making a collection of place-names in Orkney, which will be edited on the side of their etymology by Dr. J. Jacobsen of Copenhagen, whose work on *Shetland Place Names* is also to be re-issued. It is planned finally to form a fund of £2,000 to be invested and the annual interest used in making special researches into the dialects and folk-lore of Orkney, Shetland, and the North of Scotland. This very great work which has been so creditably inaugurated deserves the support of all lovers of British history and "Old-Lore." That it will be conducted on a high plan of scholarship the name of the Viking Club and Society for Northern Research alone is a sufficient guarantee.

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DE MAUPASSANT.

ALBERT LUMBROSO: *Souvenirs sur Maupassant . . . avec des lettres inédites . . . Portraits, autographes, instantanées*. (Rome, Bocca frères, éditeurs, 1905, 705 pp.)

LOUIS THOMAS: *La maladie et la mort de Maupassant*. (Brochure in 12. Bruges, 1906, 101 pp.)

EDOUARD MAYNIAL: *La Vie et l'œuvre de Guy de Maupassant*. Paris: Société du Mercure de France, 1906, 296 pp.

No writer belonging to the present generation seems to appeal so much to the scholarly as well as to the general public as Maupassant. Whatever is printed about him is almost torn from the hands of the publisher.

The three publications whose titles have been given above have attracted a good deal of attention; they are very different in kind, however.

The bulky volume of the baron Lumbroso, interspersed with a score of interesting pictures,

contains many valuable documents in the form of personal "Souvenirs" gathered from friends and acquaintances of Maupassant. There are a number of letters, and also articles previously published but out of reach for the ordinary reader. Occasionally the editor adds a few personal remarks and anecdotes. The book ends with a few selections from Maupassant, illustrating his different styles.

There is no order whatsoever in the arrangement of the material. The chapter on the last illness and death of Maupassant comes before the one on the childhood and youth. They are separated by "Notes sur la mère de Maupassant" and Souvenirs of a friend on "Maupassant et son théâtre." After reprints of appreciations of Maupassant by G. Pellissier et Goncourt, comes an account of the inauguration of his statue at Rouen, followed by a "Bibliographie de Guy de Maupassant." Then a few pages concerning the relations of Taine and Maupassant; and again some "Détails inédits" on the childhood. . . . This not particularly picturesque disorder continues until the last page of the book. Moreover, the author does not mind in the least if he repeats a number of times the same piece of information. He is not very particular, at other places, about the nature of his information (*e. g.*, p. 240, his "Bibliographie des œuvres posthumes" is incomplete; while he puts (p. 238) "Les dimanches d'un bourgeois de Paris" among the works published during Maupassant's lifetime). He puts down, without noticing them, contradictory statements (*e. g.*, p. 76 he states, giving as his authority Madame de Maupassant, that several other guests were present at the last meal taken at her house, and p. 119 he gives an account of Madame de Maupassant again, to the effect that Guy was "en tête à tête" with his mother. Or, p. 239, the two women who seem to have hastened Maupassant's insanity come to see him ("cela est absolument sûr") at Cannes a few hours before his attempt to commit suicide, when p. 118 he produces Madame de Maupassant's account that he saw them at the Îles Sainte Marguerite on Christmas eve, thus a week earlier, and that they left for Paris the next day. Again, p. 293, a declaration of Maupassant's is reproduced to the effect that he was never "docile sur le chapitre

de la religion," and p. 300 we have the declaration of a friend "Il communia avec ferveur"). He overloads his book with unnecessary things (p. 597, he says that the Maupassants of Paris are in no way related to the family of Guy de Maupassant, and pp. 598 and 599 he offers all sorts of information concerning those people. See also pp. 91, 92, 95, 97). He tells us the whole story of the house where Maupassant was confined during his insanity, p. 804, and this house owned in the eighteenth century by the Princesse de Lamballe inspires him with very odd remarks: "Malgré nous, nous rapprochons de la mémoire de Guy de Maupassant celle de la belle Princesse. Les bourreaux qui l'ont saisi brutalement ne lui ont pas seulement ôté la vie, mais morte ils ont profané sa beauté et mutilé son sexe. Elle était coupable de dévouement à une Reine" (?).

It is only just to remark here that in the chapter on the childhood of Maupassant (pp. 287-300), the author mentions "en passant" the name of M^{lle} Ray (pseudonym: Madame Renée d'Ulmès) while borrowing word for word some of her anecdotes published in *La Revue*, and spoiling some others. As to *La Revue*, he never as much as mentions it.

With all those imperfections the book of baron Lumbroso, I repeat it, is full of very valuable material. In using it one must only be careful and not borrow any information without having previously ascertained that the statement is not perhaps contradicted in one of the other 704 pages of the volume. Even as it is the book will be widely taken advantage of.

It has already inspired two excellent monographs. One is the pamphlet of Dr. Louis Thomas: "*La maladie et la mort de Maupassant*," which, however, is not as valuable as the article by the same author on the same subject that appeared in the *Mercur de France*, June 1, 1905.

The other is Maynial's *La Vie et l'œuvre de Guy de Maupassant*, a very conscientious and keen piece of work. While the author borrows much from Lumbroso, he does not, however, confine himself to it; he has carefully read the *Journal des Goncourt* and the *Correspondance de Flaubert*, for instance, and he has looked up many of Maupassant's articles in the *Gaulois* and

in the *Journal*. It is by far the best biography of Maupassant that we have yet seen. The third part especially throws a great deal of light upon that part of Maupassant's life which begins with the year when he so suddenly rose to fame and which ends with the few weeks before his insanity, in fact, the time of his literary career about which up to now we knew very little. As to the fourth part, although Maynial says modestly that he cannot expect to add much to Thomas' pamphlet, it is a masterpiece of rich documentation, lucid criticism, and sober judgment.

Maupassant's works, in spite of the title of the book, are taken up only in so far as they are explained by the life. But there are some reasons to believe that we may expect before long another volume from the same pen. What makes us think so is that there are articles of Maynial published in recent years in the *Revue bleue* and in the *Mercure de France*, which seemed distinctly to be fragments of a general study and which have not been made use of in the volume now just issued.

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SHAKESPEARE.

Shakespeare and the Supernatural: a Brief Study of Folklore, Superstition, and Witchcraft, in 'Macbeth,' 'Midsummer Night's Dream,' and 'The Tempest.' By MARGARET LUCY. With a Bibliography of the Subject by WILLIAM JAGGARD. Liverpool: The Shakespeare Press, 1906. 8vo, pp. 38.

If Miss Lucy is akin to that Sir Thomas with whom the young Shakespeare had trouble, she has made ample amends for the knight's lack of insight. We regret, however, that we cannot speak of this as an important contribution to the subject. Prepared as a paper for the Stratford-upon-Avon Shakespeare Club, it is certainly interesting as a popular statement of certain matters; but before being printed it should, we think, have been expanded and to some extent recast. Much that is really irrelevant (e. g., the Queen's message, p. 25) should have been rigorously ex-

cluded; the excision would not have made it less readable.

Mr. William Jaggard has added a five-page bibliography of the subject. This becomes important in view of the fact that Mr. Jaggard now comes forward as the bibliographer of Shakespeare and announces, as approaching completion, "a bibliography of our national poet and playwright, including every known public or private issue of his plays, poems and collected works, and all known Shakespeariana in the English language whether manuscript or printed, embracing over fifteen thousand entries and references, with collations, copious notes, and a key to hundreds of anonyms and pseudonyms." From what he has done for Miss Lucy's book we may reasonably infer what he proposes to do for the larger work. We hope he will improve his method in several respects. He gives only the short titles, which are often inadequate; the dates; and the sizes. Scott's *Letters on Demonology and Witchcraft* (1830) are dated 1856. Listing only book titles, he omits such volumes as Halliwell, *Memoranda on the Midsummer Night's Dream*, Brighton, 1879; R. G. Moulton, *The Moral System of Shakespeare*, New York, 1903; S. Lanier, *Shakespeare and his Forerunners*, New York, 1902; E. Hense, *Ueber die Erscheinung des 'Geistes' im Hamlet*, Elberfeld, 1890; S. H. Hodgson, *Outcast Essays*, London, 1881; H. R. D. Anders, *Shakespeare's Books*, Berlin, 1904; H. Ankenbrand, *Die Figur des Geistes im Drama der englischen Renaissance*, Leipzig, 1906 (appeared in 1905); Martin W. Cooke, *The Human Mystery in Hamlet*, New York, 1888; to say nothing of a large number of periodical articles of such importance as Schelling's article in *Modern Philology*, I, 31-47, the article in *The Quarterly Review* for July, 1890, and Sigismund's "Die medizinische Kenntniss Shakespeare's" in the *Jahrbuch*, XVI, 39-143, XVII, 6-66, XVIII, 36-80.

Why, moreover, does Mr. Jaggard limit this undertaking to works in English? As every one knows, much valuable criticism has come from the Continent. If Mr. Jaggard is unable to handle the foreign bibliography, let him secure the cooperation of reputable Continental scholars, in order that the whole mass of material may be brought into one comprehensive scheme.